

## Opinion

### A waste of money

Senator William Proxmire, (D, Wisconsin) is well known for his "Golden Pledge Award" which he bestows on government agencies for gross waste of tax dollars. Sometimes it isn't until the money has been spent that it becomes apparent that the goods or services purchased with federal dollars aren't worth the powder to blow them up. A prime example is the pedestrian walkway lighting system in Carbondale.

We asked a dozen people whether or not the "walk-don't walk" lights located at the major intersections on Main Street and Church Street work. The answers were unanimous. No!

although some of the bulbs are burnt out. Our question to Wallis was, "At the intersections on Church Street where push buttons should enable pedestrians to change the traffic lights from red to green, what is supposed to happen when one pushes a button?" Wallis answered that if there are no cars at the intersection, the light should change, but if there are cars, their presence overrides the pedestrian button. He said that he did not know what logic the computer uses in controlling the lights, and that PennDOT probably has that information.

Wallis added that the traffic lights on Church Street should remain green for Church Street traffic until traffic approaches from the intersecting street (Salem Avenue, Lincoln Avenue, Seventh Avenue). Sensors were buried at the intersections to detect approaching traffic and change the signals, but the NEWS observed that the lights at the intersections on North Church Street and Salem Ave. and Lincoln Ave. change whether or not cars approach.

We pushed the pedestrian buttons to change the traffic light, but nothing happened. It therefore appears that the expensive computer controlled traffic signalization system doesn't work. Even if it does work, as Wallis Electric says, we don't see how it helps traffic flow or pedestrians. If anyone in Carbondale feels that the "walk-don't walk" signs are helpful, we'd like to know.

Since grade school we've all known that a pedestrian is not

is okay to cross the street. Since the federal government feels that our traffic signalization system is very valuable (the system was purchased with federal money), maybe they would be willing to buy it back. Or maybe there is another city which wants to become more progressive. How about it, Mayfield, Jermyn, Simpson? Wouldn't you like to have some walk-don't walk signs in your communities? Carbondale needs to raise some money. Maybe the new Carbondale city administration will sell you a "good-as-new" system cheap!

For the first time since the incorporation of Feil Township in 1861, an all Democratic township board of supervisors took over the management. They had a grand opening of the beautiful new Ben-Mar Restaurant, located in the former Delt property at 80 N. Main St.

25 YEARS AGO The Columbia Hose Company named City Treasurer Frank L. Howard as general chairman of the hose company's annual banquet in honor of St. Patrick's.

15 YEARS AGO First guests at Carbondale Nursing Home Inc., were scheduled to register January 1st. Full occupancy capacity of the nursing home is 108.

10 YEARS AGO Mrs. Charles Arrowsmith, 410 Sanguine St., Forest City, had a baby girl, Kimberly Jo, the first baby of the year of 1964.

10 YEARS AGO William Kopchan, 33 Pike St., was the Greater Carbondale Area's first baby of 1967.

Benjamin Franklin team was the champions of the Seventh Annual Carbondale National Guard Basketball Tournament.

A violent blast wrecked a service station at Child's. The fire completed obliteration within 10 minutes.

William Lyons was on duty and had a narrow escape from death, but suffered only shock and a cut ear.

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## Carbondale News

Established in 1872

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For more information, just send a self-addressed stamped envelope requesting information on their foster pet program. Write or phone, "Human Way" at Lacey Road, P.O. Box 43, Forked River, New Jersey ZIP 08831. Phone 1-609-693-1300.

Thank you, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Oleksa 61 North Main St.

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## Remember When?

It was in the early 1960's when these huge earth moving machines were put to use clearing the snow on Main Street.

The heavy equipment belonged to Jack Gillen. The operators were, from left, Ron Gilroy, Jack Gillen, and Nick McAndrew.

The police officer near the vehicle at the right is Paul Kelly. (Photo courtesy of Jack Gillen)

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## Pet care

To the Editor: I would appreciate it if you would pass along to your readers information about the "Foster Pet Program."

If you have a dog, cat or other pet you can no longer keep, a stray that you have a special liking for, an elderly animal which has become a burden, or you are moving into an apartment where no pets are allowed or you are faced with other situations in which you must give up a beloved pet, there is an alternative - the animal Haven Farm at Forked River, New Jersey has a facility where such pets can live out their lives in peace or where hopeful pets can have room to roam until they are adopted.

All of the animals are neutered, inoculated and the public can visit with them daily, seven days a week. The dogs have kennels, dog houses, barns and a boat in which they can roam and the cats have small "houses," a boat and bathroom where they can meander.

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## Ash sidewalks

To the Editor: I would like to express an opinion a lot of people would like to get off their chests. It is about the icy conditions on John Street and on the sidewalks of the old post office. It is a shame especially for some of our older citizens trying to get to the store or the church.

I am surprised that the Housing Authority has not complained to the Mayor. The Mayor claims that there is not enough men and we know there is money for ashes. There are a lot of people in Carbondale who would gladly donate some of their coal ashes since to town is broke.

As for the post office, they seem to have moved and forgotten about the sidewalks!

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## Keeping in touch

By James Laurie 6403 Darwin Road Laurel, MD 20707

Roy and Dorothy Gumpert

Sending their love to all the people in Simpson and Carbondale are Roy and Dorothy Gumpert, 8948 Miller Lane, Vienna, Virginia 22186. Dorothy is the daughter of Michael J. and Julia Harris Mikulas, Main St., Simpson. Roy is the son of Fred and Eleanor Price Gumpert of Dixon Ave. Dorothy and Roy's children are Deborah, Kathy and Alicia. Dorothy has a sister, Joanne and Roy's brother is Donald.

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